



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 850</b>		DATE: <b>2/3/2021</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Elections and Elected Officials</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>HARRY ROBERTS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-522-1603</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI SECRETARY OF STATE OFFICE</b>		TITLE: <b>DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>600 WEST MAIN STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF (STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE)</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>ArnieDienoff@Yahoo.Com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>
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House Bill #850 I am highly in Opposition to this Bill: I believe that all Bills that authorize and send Questions by the Legislature to the Citizens of Missouri shall be allowed and shall have Full Judicial Court Review if a Citizen or Party Files a Verified Petition with the Circuit Clerk of the County having proper Venue



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JACOB HUMMEL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-2115</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI AFL-CIO</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>131 E. HIGH STREET STE. 100</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>jakehummel@moaflcio.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>

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Missouri House Committee on Election and Elected officials Representative Shaul, Chair Honorable Representatives of the Committee, The Missouri AFL-CIO, the voice of working Missourians, urges a "No" vote on HB 850 as introduced. We believe that government functions best when it's actions comport with, and are held accountable by, the will of the people. The idea that the voice of the people should be heard, and that the government should be an instrument of the people's will did not used to be controversial. In fact giving action to the will of the people has been a guiding principle of the Missouri government since our founding. Our founders, in their wisdom, built multiple ways the people of our state could act as a check on politicians, and hold their government accountable. The founders guaranteed us elections, where the will of the people was to be respected. Our State's forefathers built referendums, so that on issues of political controversy the issue could be decided directly by vote of the people. And finally they gave we, the people, the initiative petition process; so that when necessary, the people could govern themselves directly, without the necessity of politicians acting as intermediaries. Unfortunately over the last few years we've seen a growing disregard for the wisdom of our State, and our nations, founding principles. After years of working to expand voting rights to-finally- include everyone in the promise of American democracy we saw voting rights contracts. On multiple occasions we have seen the will of the people- loudly proclaimed at the ballot box- set aside and disregarded by politicians who profess to know what is better for the people, than the people know themselves. And we are increasingly seeing attempts to contract the rights of the people to determine their own destiny by restricting their ability to govern themselves via the initiative petition process. Unfortunately we believe that HB 850 falls into this category. As a State we have vested interest in making sure a citizen's signature is clear, valid and properly represented. As a State we have no interest in being a nanny that controls the color of pen that a sovereign voter of our state uses to express their will. As a jurist might exclaim, "the burden is undue!" As a State we have interest in making sure that what each sovereign citizen endorses is an accurate representation of the change they seek. But we must not bow to lawyers and counselors who may play petty games and file lawsuits to erase progress made or invalidate desires of citizens duely expressed! We believe that election reforms made must seek to include more citizens in the process, rather than exclude our fellow Missourians. We respectfully urge a "No" vote on HB 850. Jacob Hummel President Missouri AFL-CIO



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MO DEL VILLAR</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>816-929-6166</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF MISSOURI</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>406 34TH STREET, SUITE 420</b>			
CITY: <b>KANSAS CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>64111</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>OTTO FAJEN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-3202</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI NEA</b>		TITLE: <b>LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1810 EAST ELM STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>otto.fajen@mnea.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/3/2021 12:00 AM</b>
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Missouri NEA Testimony on HB 850 to the House Elections and Elected Officials Committee February 3, 2021 Otto Fajen, MNEA Legislative Director The Association appreciates the opportunity to present written testimony regarding HB 850 filed by Rep. Wiemann. The Association opposes the bill as filed. HB 850 attempts to prohibit a court from changing a summary statement or ballot language approved by the General Assembly for a Constitutional amendment or a statutory measure. The Association is concerned that this bill attempts to cross the boundaries created under our Constitution regarding the separation of powers by prohibiting judicial review on ballot measures. The Association believes that legislation should respect the separation of powers and opposes the bill. On behalf of the Association, I thank you for the opportunity to offer our testimony on HB 850. Otto Fajen MNEA Legislative Director